

AGTA News

CHAIR OF DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 2021

I AM A GEOGRAPHER CAREER PROFILE:

Tarryn Harding • Oxana Repina

FIELDWORK

• Examining Nature-Based Tourism • Land Use Change

AFFILIATES REPORTS:

NT • NSW/ACT • QLD • SA • TAS • VIC • WA

2022 CALENDAR



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CHAIR OF DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 2021

The continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021 again disrupted the activities of AGTA and its members. Although we were fortunate to be able to hold our May Board meeting in Hobart with most Board members attending in person with a couple via Zoom, our activities in the second half of the year were much reduced – most noticeably via the postponement of AGTA's Biennial Conference. Whilst some Affiliates have been able to hold their professional development activities on a face-to-face basis, others have had to move to online formats. Fortunately, Geographers are well experienced at being adaptable and, amongst other things, using geospatial technologies to produce exciting and engaging online activities for both teachers and students.

In 2021, we welcomed some new Directors to the Board due to changes in the various Affiliates. As per our Constitution, Presidents of each member state or territory Affiliate are automatically appointed to the Board. Additionally, each Affiliate has a nominated Board member. Since each Affiliate has slightly different timings for their annual general meetings, Board membership changes throughout the year. The current list of AGTA Directors is maintained on our website. AGTA Executive for 2021 consisted of myself as Chair with Joanne Wegener (SA) as Deputy Chair. Dr Grant Kleeman (NSW) fulfilled the roles of both Treasurer and Immediate Past Chair and Susan Caldis (NSW) again took on the role of Secretary.

AGTA's representative work

AGTA has an important role in representing geography teachers on a range of national committees to ensure that the voice of geography educators in schools is heard. Thank you to the following people who have represented AGTA at meetings involving the following organisations:

- ▶ Australian Alliance of Associations in Education (AAAE): Trish Douglas; Institute of Australian Geographers (IAG): Susan Caldis;
- ▶ Australian Academy of Science's National Committee of Geography: Dr Grant Kleeman; Australian Geography Competition: Julie Davis and Shane Albertson
- ▶ We also continued to invite a representative of the Institute of Australian Geographers to attend our Board meetings as an observer in order to maintain links with the tertiary sector.

Major Board activities in 2021

The following outlines some of the key actions which have been undertaken this year:

- ▶ AGTA has provided vital input to ACARA regarding the review of the Humanities and Social Science (HASS) Australian Curriculum. Trish Douglas, Susan Caldis and Dr Grant Kleeman continued to liaise with Terry Gallagher, Senior Manager, Australian Curriculum Review.

- ▶ When the Draft Curriculum was released in late April, AGTA Affiliates worked to inform their members and develop their own responses to ACARA. In addition, this was a major focus for our May Board meeting, following which AGTA produced detailed feedback for ACARA in response to the draft. Thank you to Dr Grant Kleeman who undertook much of this compilation. The updated version of the F-10 Australian Curriculum, once approved by Ministers, will be made available on the Australian Curriculum website for the start of 2022 and we hope that the recommendations made by AGTA and its members will be considered.
- ▶ Considerable progress has been made on the development of the AGTA Geo Careers website. Aply led by Rowan Harris (TGTA), the aim is to provide a platform for the active promotion of Geography. By informing students, and parents, of potential careers linked to the subject, we hope to encourage more students to further their Geography studies in the post compulsory years. AGTA Board members have approached various organisations in regard to sponsoring this website. We had hoped to launch the website at the AGTA Conference in 2021 but the launch has also been postponed with the change in conference dates.
- ▶ In *Geography: Shaping Australia's Future* there is a recommendation for formal recognition, in policy and practice, of Geography as a STEM subject. Susan Caldis and Dr Grant Kleeman are leading the AGTA response to continue to push for this. Susan's role as STEM Ambassador for Geography Education and Grant's position as a member of National Committee for Geography Sciences are key avenues for facilitation here.
- ▶ Trish represented AGTA at the Department of Education, Skills and Employment - Schools and Youth Group Forum held in June. The focus for this was on Disability Standards for Education and the Online Formative Assessment Initiative (OFAI).
- ▶ AGTA endorsed A Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Declaration by Geographers in Australia presented at the IAG/NZGS 2021 Combined Conference. The declaration was launched on 7 July 2021 as part of the keynote address by Susan Caldis entitled "*Understanding a climate emergency in and through geography education: What can geography educators declare?*".
- ▶ In 2019 Grant Kleeman and Susan Caldis wrote a paper for Geographical Education, in regard to out-of-field teaching. Subsequently an invitation was extended to Susan to join the Out of Field Teaching Collective (OOFTC) (coordinated as a national project through Deakin University) led by Professor Linda Hobbs from Deakin University.

The National Summit on Teaching Out-of-Field was held online 21-23 October 2021 with Susan Caldis and Trish Douglas representing AGTA. As we are well aware, many schools across Australia face this issue where teachers who are not qualified to teach Geography are in fact teaching this subject. The implications of the out-of-field teaching phenomenon for education was the focus of the presentations and discussions. Some key themes in relation to this include: data needed to inform policy, school management and leadership, initial teacher education, teacher registration and accreditation policies and teacher professional learning. Susan and Trish will provide a report is our next addition.



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AGTA Resources

The AGTA series of textbooks, *Geography Skills Unlocked*, *Geography Literacy Unlocked* and *Geography Fieldwork Unlocked*, continue to sell well across Australia. All publications have been reviewed most favourably with pre-service teachers finding them a particularly valuable resource (and available for them at a special package discount price). AGTA remains indebted to Dr Grant Kleeman for all his work in relation to these textbooks. The publication of these resources continues to provide an essential income stream for our organisation.

Student Geography competitions/activities

AGTA continues to be involved in a joint initiative with the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland (RGSQ) in the running of the annual Australian Geography Competition. This competition helps raise the profile of geography both within schools and at a national level.

In 2021, the competition was again impacted by COVID-19 but not to the extent of the previous year. Approximately 728 schools participated with around 73 000 students registered. The top performing students in the competition are usually invited to participate in Geography's Big Week Out (GBWO) which forms the basis of selection for representing Australia in the International Geography Olympiad (iGeo). Due to COVID-19 travel restriction uncertainty, the Big Week Out event, originally scheduled to be hosted by the Geographical Association of Western Australia (GAWA) has been moved to Queensland. GTAQ will host the event 22-26 January. From this group of seventeen students, the top performers will be selected for the 2022 Olympiad. GBWO will be hosted by GTAQ in 2022 with support from GHTANT.

The iGeo event scheduled for Istanbul, Turkey in 2020, took place in August 2021 via an online format. Interstate travel restrictions meant that not all of the four-member Australian team could travel to Darwin for this so they did it remotely. Time differences meant some late hours for the students as all tests had to be conducted at the same time. The students performed very well, each receiving bronze medals in the event.

Thank you to Shane Albertson and Julie Davis from the AGTA Board who have made a significant contribution to the Australian Geography Competition Committee this year to ensure the strengthening of the relationship between AGTA and RGSQ.

In 2022, the Australian Geography Competition will move to an online platform hosted by Education Perfect. This will allow for interactivity and testing of geospatial skills. Such a development will help ensure the relevance of the competition in the current educational context.

Geographical Education

Geographical Education (ISSN 2204-0242) is the professional journal of AGTA and is on the DEST Register of Refereed Journals. The journal was published in print form until Volume 25, 2012. Since then the journal has been published in a digital format and is available on the Association's website. Contributions of varying length are invited, with a maximum of 5,000 words for major articles and research

reports. Shorter articles of 2,000 words, featuring classroom strategies, reflections on particular issues and practices in geography teaching, in-service education workshops, and comments on previous articles are especially welcome.

In 2021, Dr Terri Bourke, assisted by Susan Caldis, continued in the role of Journal Editor and Geoffrey Paterson has continued in the role of Reviews and copy editor. We thank them all for their valuable contributions. Dr Terri Bourke will relinquish the Editor role at the end of the year with Dr Jeana Kriewaldt of the University of Melbourne (and former AGTA Chair), taking on this position for 2022.

Geographia

AGTA's newsletter Geographia is used to update the broader membership on the activities of AGTA and its state and territory-based Affiliates. This vital role was filled this year by Steve Hawking (GHTANT). His work in producing this important document is much appreciated.

Website

Once again, huge appreciation to Rob Berry for his continued excellent management of this vital form of communication for our organisation.

AGTA Conference 2021 postponed to 2022

The AGTA Conference was to be hosted by the Tasmanian Geography Teachers Association in Hobart 29 September to 1 October 2021 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Unfortunately, due to the impact of COVID-19 travel restrictions, the difficult decision was made to postpone this conference to the following year. It will now be held 28 to 30 September 2022 at the same venue. Thank you to Karen Caporelli and Debbie Claridge, ably supported by Dr Greg Calvert, who have put so much time into organising such an exciting program. We look forward to being able to participate in this event next year and encourage members of all Affiliates to attend.

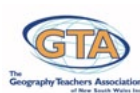
Thank you

On behalf of the Board, thank you to those involved in AGTA's operation over the past year. Particular thanks to fellow AGTA Executive members and everyone on the Board for their work in yet another challenging year.

After five years in the role of AGTA Chair, I stepped down at the 2021 AGTA Annual General Meeting, but I will be continuing my involvement in the organisation. I wish Susan Caldis every success as the incoming chair, and congratulate the incoming executive committee. The future of AGTA is in very good hands, and I am confident we will continue to make a positive contribution to geographical education in Australia.
Trish Douglas AGTA Chair, 2021



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I AM A GEOGRAPHER

Interaction: June 2021 (Vol 49, No 2)

Career Profile: Tarryn Harding

Position: Parks and Recreation Consultant, Xyst Australia

Growing up, I loved the outdoors, whether it be surfing, hiking or bike riding. This passion led me to study VCE Geography while at school and then I completed a Bachelor of Sport and Recreation at Monash University, Melbourne.

When I graduated, I worked in local government as a Recreation Planner. My role involved the planning, delivery and operation of sport and leisure assets, such as parks, pools, playgrounds, sporting reserves and trails. Recently, I have switched to the private sector. In my current role as a Parks and Recreation Consultant, I provide expert advice relating to parks, sport and recreation to government organisations, predominantly local councils. This can range from developing strategies and policies, undertaking master planning, surveying park users, undertaking audits and performance assessments, asset management and developing best practice operation standards. Essentially, we aim to activate people and places and encourage communities to become healthier by being connected to sport and the outdoors.

Being able to draw upon my geographical skills and knowledge is crucial to my role. While planning and out in the field, ground-truthing a new project, for example a mountain-bike trail to build, I need to interpret and analyse a lot of geographical data. Not just landform data, such as spatial data and maps, topography, flora and fauna and flood zones, but also population data such as local demographics and economic benefits. We need to ensure that what we are planning and building for communities meets their needs, are sustainable and can be used for many generations to come.

A key aspect of my job is strategic planning where I'm responsible for analysing and developing strategies and policies that relate to open space and affect how communities use and engage with council-provided recreation assets. Studying Geography introduced me to a range of social, environmental, cultural, health and economic issues, and really helped me grasp the concept of analysing policies and how these have flow-on effects for years to come. Depending on the project, I can work with many other Geography-related positions, such as heritage and biodiversity specialists, traffic advisors and GIS mapping specialists.

Having geographical knowledge and skills is vital in this field of work. While recreation planning is a very niche industry, there are other aspects and forms of planning, such as town and urban planning or transport or environmental planning, that geographers would excel in.

** Tarryn has recently been selected for the judging panel of the 2021 Parks and Leisure Awards of Excellence.*



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I AM A GEOGRAPHER

Interaction: September 2021 (Vol 49, No 3)

Career Profile: Oxana Repina

Position: PhD student, School of Earth, Atmospheric and Life Sciences,
University of Wollongong



Much of my work also involves understanding and modelling trends over time, variations across space, and how different processes interact to modify the environment.

As our awareness of human impacts on the environment continues to grow, and governments and businesses are increasingly motivated to take action, Geography seems to be an increasingly sought-after degree. Especially in demand are skills in GIS, computer programming, and using remote sensing data. I've found Geography to be an exciting field to study; it provides an opportunity to view things holistically, to use cutting-edge, expensive equipment out in remote muddy locations, and to explore solutions for some of the problems our planet faces.

(Photograph taken by Paul Jones, 2021)

When I first took Geography at school, I loved fieldtrips into the outdoors and studying the same places that I would visit while hiking, surfing, and kayaking in my spare time. Studying Geography since then, I've surveyed tropical beaches in Cairns, sampled water from icy creeks in the Namadgi wilderness, re-created chemicals found in mine tailings in a laboratory, and flown drones over seldom-visited islands in the Great Barrier Reef.

One of my favourite parts of doing research in Geography is that the topics it covers are both diverse and meaningful. I've been part of teams researching how we can store water in natural aquifers underground instead of damming rivers, how we can convert toxic mine tailings back into usable soil, how we can better model the ecological benefits of water flows in the Murray-Darling Basin, and how mangrove forests have changed over time across the Northern Territory and on the Great Barrier Reef. In each of these, the 'Geography angle' has been to look at things holistically, and piece together how separate aspects like ecology, hydrology, geomorphology, climate and human activities together contribute to the issues and to potential solutions.

I studied Geographical Sciences through a Bachelor of Advanced Science at the University of Queensland. For Honours, I looked at how beaches in tropical Queensland were responding to sea level rise. After I graduated, I worked with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) on creating maps of Australia's land use using satellite imagery, spatial datasets, and computer code.

In March this year, I started a PhD at the University of Wollongong. My research investigates how we can better predict the impact of climate change on our beaches. We know that beaches will increasingly erode and retreat inland as the sea level rises. Climate change is also likely to change the average height and direction of waves hitting the coast, how frequently and intensely storms occur, and the amount of sediment that rivers deliver to the coast. Each of these factors may worsen erosion, or shift 'hotspots' of erosion around the coast. As our coasts become more and more developed, we need to be able to forecast how much erosion will occur and where. My project will compare current models of coastal erosion and look at how we can make them both simpler and more accurate. My work relies on a lot of geographic skills. Remote sensing technologies are a big focus of my project for several reasons. Satellite imagery provides a continuous dataset of how our coastlines looked in the past, stretching back over 30 years and covering nearly every part of the globe. Drones provide a cost-effective way to collect high-resolution aerial survey data across study sites. After data collection, I use GIS to process the data and visualise model outputs.



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FIELDWORK EXAMINING NATURE-BASED TOURISM

Location: The Tan, Royal Botanic Gardens

Theo Hartman, Coburg High School

Delegates explored the serenity of the cultivated nature-scape, to understand how natural assets are being leveraged to foster growth in the tourism sector and to build biodiversity and resilience in cities. The session covered primary data fieldwork best practices as well as discussing key secondary resources such as the DELWP Biodiversity 2037 Strategy. The session was complimented by a presentation from a garden ranger as well as a short tour on the Garden Explorer.

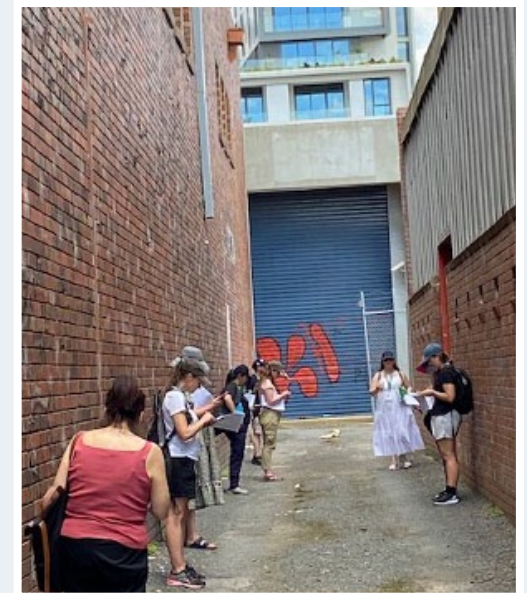


FIELDWORK – LAND USE CHANGE

Location: Fishermans Bend, Kirrip Park, South Melbourne

Karoline Walters, Camberwell Girls Grammar School

Fishermans Bend is an exciting urban development project that offers much as a Unit 3 Geography fieldwork site. The session focused on the Montague Precinct, the first of five precincts to undergo a specific development plan and aligns with the newly released fieldwork resource published by the GTAV in partnership with the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions. The fieldwork, took a walking tour discovering the key features of Montague and trial a range of primary data collection methods, including the application of geospatial technology



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THE GEOGRAPHY & HISTORY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION NT

Report for the AGTA Annual General Meeting 2021

The main focus for GHTANT this year was preparing for the biennial Festival of Teaching which was held in August. This event allows all NT teaching associations to present workshops to teachers – members and non-members alike. GHTANT facilitated three workshops at the Festival. The GHTANT president presented a workshop of specific interest to geography teachers on the use of online platform Datawrapper to create choropleth and locator maps. Previous AGTA board representative Anna Hind presented a cross-curriculum session on strategies to support student recall in preparation for examinations, including the Stage 2 Geography exam. Our third session was for history teachers, while a fourth planned workshop on Indigenous perspectives was cancelled due to COVID travel restrictions.

In November 2021, GHTANT facilitated a workshop for our members. We ensure at least two workshops have a geography-specific focus, most likely to support middle school teachers, many of whom are out-of-field.

The GHTANT committee was fortunate to gain some new blood at our AGM in August, but unfortunately our committee continues to consist mainly of history teachers. Although Jen Waterhouse has agreed to continue on the GHTANT board, which provides a very valuable voice in the Geography space, she has indicated a wish to step back from AGTA. I would like to thank Jen for her support over the previous 12 months. In addition, I would like to publicly thank GHTANT member Julie Hearnden for her support in assisting GHTANT to provide feedback on the ACARA Geography curriculum.

Funding continues to be good for GHTANT, which grants of up to \$20,000 available. We were very sorry not to be able to use this funding for members to attend the AGTA conference this year, but will provide opportunities for our members to attend the rescheduled event – we are sure it will be fantastic!

Our biggest challenge has been a relatively small membership base and issues to provide specific support in Geography, especially in the senior secondary space, with Geography not offered in many schools. Our focus for 2022 will be to support middle school teachers to implement the renewed Australian curriculum.

Another challenge has been an inability for GHTANT to find a treasurer. This has meant the president has had to lead the association and manage the finances, which has been frustrating. Working on our internal administration as well as succession planning will be important for us in the coming year.

Steve Hawkins
President, GHTANT



About our association

- 27 Individual members
- 4 Institutional members
- 2 Life members
- 12 pre-service teacher members

Our committee

- Steve Hawkins – President & Treasurer
- Nelly Labiche – Vice President
- Justin Zammit – Secretary
- Nelly Labiche – Executive member
- Charleen Conroy – Executive member
- Marg Girdham – Executive member
- Emma Forrester – Executive member
- Jen Waterhouse – Executive member



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GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF NSW & ACT

2021 AGTA affiliate report:

1. Membership

We currently have just over 640 members (647 as of our last AGM). Most of whom are organisational members through their various schools.

Our fee structure in 2021 remains unchanged.

2. Executive Committee

President - Susan Caldis

Vice/Immediate Past President – Lorraine Chaffer

Vice President - David Latimer (Relieving President, March – July) Vice President – Dr Paul Batten

Vice President - Alexandria Warnock Treasurer (honorary) – Dr Grant Kleeman Secretary

(minutes) - Katerina Stojanovski

Being supported by:

10 councillors and 1 ACT representative councillor 6 co-opted councillors

3. Professional Development Events

A. 2021 GTA NSW/ACT CONFERENCE - SHAPING FUTURES

There were 162 people in attendance at our annual conference at Stadium Australia on Thursday and 153 on Friday. Initial feedback from teachers has been highly positive. 40 sessions and two keynote addresses were offered to attendees. There were also 28 exhibitors presenting at the day.

GTA offered 2 scholarships and this was complemented by an additional 2 from sponsors.

GTA NSW/ACT would like to recognise the significant contribution that Lorraine Chaffer has made by coordinating both this year's conference and previous years' events.

B. GTA NSW/ACT BULLETIN

Each edition of our bulletin offers close to 100 pages of research and resources for teachers to use. As part of a transition process, two Councillors (Katerina Stojanovski and Rebecca Sutcliffe) took on a editors role for a special edition in Term 2.

C. ONLINE COURSE

Dr Paul Batten and Katerina Stojanovski continue to develop and support a number of online courses which teachers can access at any time. A link to these is currently on the AGTA home page.

D. WEBINAR PROGRAM

This year we have trialled a two-stream approach to the webinar program: 'From the Academy' (geography academics sharing research and related professional readings) and 'From the classroom' (geography teachers sharing ideas and resources). Pandemic related challenges meant several speakers pulled out of the program so the webinar series was paused for Term 3. One webinar was pre-recorded with Laura Pellegrino from UK (@missgeog92) and made available at no charge to all members

4. Teacher interactions

GTA NSW/ACT continues to maintain a presence on social media through Facebook and Twitter. Our webpage is continually updated and we receive regular correspondence through this.

5. Development

At our pre-Annual General Meeting planning day there were two key ideas put forward for development in 2021.

We were scoping for a set of guided field trips in which teachers could enrol. The field trips would have a few aims. Firstly they would educate teachers about commonly used case study materials. The depth of this education could be enhanced by having guest academics who would speak to their research in areas such as urban planning, multicultural cohesion, ecological resilience or water management. Secondly, the field trips would model for teachers how geographic fieldwork could be employed to develop understanding. Teachers continue to identify a lack of confidence with fieldwork methods and ideas as an impediment in their practice.

Our second significant development was a re-writing of our Geography competition program. The Young Geographer competition aims to recognise successful attempts at researching Geographically by students. Our revised competition has attempted to recognise the importance of STEM in Geography through mandating the use of geospatial tools in either data collection, analysis or communication. The revised competition also offers students an extrinsic motivation in the form of a significant cash prize.

In response to the limitations on physical meetings we initiated a program of webinars in 2020 in order to maintain a presence in the professional learning space. This was quite successful and has been continued in 2021.

Lorraine Chaffer has also been leading up the development of classroom posters. These have been highly successful and well regarded by teachers.

However, the role of advocacy from GTA NSW/ACT remains paramount. Susan continues to be very vocal about aligning Association efforts with the Decadal Plan for Geography, Geography: Shaping Australia's Future and her role as a STEM ambassador leads us to naturally recognise the opportunities that exist within Geography as a STEM subject. We provided a submission to ACARA for the curriculum review. A second submission to the NSW Minister of Education is underway about accreditation processes for professional learning and transparency of information shaping further development of syllabus as a result of the review process.



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6. Current challenges and opportunities

The usual challenges of maintaining student engagement and subject selection continue to be present in NSW and the assistance requested from teachers reflect concerns in this space. As with all organisations, the challenges of maintaining connection and voice in the face of the uncertainty created by the pandemic.

A recent change by NSW Education Standards Authority to limit accredited Professional learning to those courses offered by NSW department of Education, Catholic Schools NSW and the Archdioceses and Dioceses of NSW, and the Association of Independent Schools has created some confusion for Professional Associations, such as GTA NSW/ACT. We are working closely with Professional Teachers Council NSW to resolve this and recognise the valuable contribution we make to teacher learning.

The delayed release of a revised NSW Stage 6 Geography syllabus is creating both excited anticipation and frustrations about the delay. During 2021, David Latimer stepped into the role as President temporarily whilst I completed my doctoral thesis. I would like to acknowledge the time and thought David put into this role and to thank him for continuing the vision for geography education in NSW.

Susan Caldis
President



The
Geography Teachers Association
of New South Wales Inc.



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GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND

Affiliate Report

President: Julie Davis (QUT)

Secretary: Jennifer Knight (All Hallows School)

Treasurer: Kaye Schwede (Wynnum SHS)

Elected Council Members: Shane Albertson, Lerece Roberts, Nina Holland, Shane Thackeray, Brett Dascombe, Errin Merrin

Co-opted Council Members: Wendy Bolton, Amanda Hart, Aaron Bates, Jo Paxton, Louise Harris, Wendy Hart

1. Annual conference

Our annual conference was held in July with 100 delegates in attendance. With a lockdown called during our keynote address at the start of the day it was a scramble to adjust the program so presenters and delegates could get the most from the conference before rushing home. Many of the regional delegates and presenters then had to quarantine at home after being in the Brisbane LGA. I want to take this moment to thank everyone for their support and flexibility; this meant that we really only missed one session of concurrent presentations and were able to continue with the masterclasses, although they were shortened. The feedback has been very positive and supportive and the focus on teachers as presenters was very much appreciated by delegates.

Ivan Motley, our Keynote speaker, from .id Informed Decisions was a fabulous advocate for geography and generated much enthusiasm with his engaging and informative presentation. The new education precinct at QUT was a fabulous venue, and I thank Terri Bourke for all her help in liaising to ensure we could secure the venue.

2. Australian Curriculum review

We held a number of forums with our members, facilitated by different committee members, and were able to provide some very detailed and specific feedback to ACARA, post the public consultation period. I also worked with RGSQ to craft a response to both State and Federal Education Ministers as well as the ACARA CEO. Both Ministers provided a response to RGSQ noting that the syllabus would go through a number of stages before it's release to ensure it aligned to the Terms of Reference. The Federal Minister was much more concerned with the mathematics syllabus and failed to address the concerns of RGSQ specifically.

I was invited by ACARA to provide specific feedback on the subsequent draft of the syllabus and since then I have seen the next revision. While there has been significant improvements in the Content Descriptors, with many being returned to the existing descriptors, there is still some work to be done on the achievement standards and the skills, in particular to reflect a geographic inquiry approach, which most of the teachers who participated in the GTAQ forums noted was 'invisible' or 'absent'.

Julie Davis
GTAQ President



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GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF S.A.

President's Report – October 2021

The last 12 months have continued to bring challenges to all of us, but we are extremely proud of our association-wide response to the new educational landscape, where we have forged ahead with a wide range of virtual and real life events.

1. Membership

- ▶ Current membership for 2021 stands at 107 members: 58 individual members; 35 school members; 14 Life Members
- ▶ This year the online membership system (EdSA Gateway), managed by Educators SA, has allowed monthly payments. It is pleasing to see an increase in our numbers to pre-pandemic levels, despite the conference being delayed until Term 4.
- ▶ Pre-service teachers are invited to join the association for free during their final year of study.
- ▶ It has been pleasing to see an increase in country membership possibly reflecting access to online Professional Development and events.
- ▶ **MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN AS AT JUNE**

Years	2019	2020	2021
Life Members	14	14	14
Individual: Country Secondary Teacher (7-12)	11	10	14
Individual: Early Career Secondary Teacher (<2 Years)	5	2	1
Individual: Metro Secondary Teacher (7-12)	22	20	28
Individual: Pre-service teacher	5	5	10
Individual: Primary School Teacher (R-6/7)	1	1	1
Individual: Retired Teacher/Friends of GTASA	3	3	4
Institution: Other Institutions	5	0	1
Institution: R-12 / Secondary	39	32	35
Total	105	87	

2. Committee

- ▶ Our committee consists of 12 active members. We continue to outsource a number of our administrative roles to Educators SA.
- ▶ **OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2021/22:**
 - JOINT-PRESIDENTS: Fiona Greig and Simon Miller
 - TREASURER: Joanne Wegener
 - SECRETARY: Domna Margaras
- ▶ **OTHER ROLES (HONORARIUM ATTACHED):**
 - JOURNAL EDITOR: Elise Walker
 - WEBSITE MANAGER: Jacob Hayes
 - CONFERENCE CONVENOR: Daisy Ashby
- ▶ The committee continues to meet once per term, mostly remotely via Zoom.
- ▶ New members are always welcome to nominate for the Executive committee. We are pleased to welcome several new members to the committee.

3. Professional Development

- ▶ We were focused on delivering our conference face to face this year in Term 4

The conference was a two day event over Sunday 14th and Monday 15th of November, with the Sunday dedicated to fieldwork and Monday dedicated to workshops. The conference program included the following highlights:

FIELDWORK - SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER:

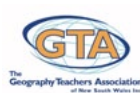
- ▶ Bushfire recovery at Scott Creek with Nature Play SA General Manager and author Jason Tyndall
- ▶ Coastal Management with the Semaphore, Largs, and Taperoo Dunes Groups
- ▶ Investigating change in the River Torrens with expert teachers Domna Margaras and Danielle Cross

WORKSHOPS - MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER:

- ▶ THREE workshops on video and tech for active learning with Jeremy LeCornu
- ▶ Simulation games for seniors
- ▶ 2019 STEM educator of the year, geologist Associate Professor Tom Raimondo of UniSA
- ▶ Urban forests
- ▶ Marine Parks - Problem-based Learning.



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Our keynote speaker was Associate Professor Douglas Bardsley of the the University of Adelaide, a Professor in Geography, Environment and Population within the School of Social Sciences. He delivered a session on "Risk Education and Geography Teaching".

4. Publications, projects & communication

- ▶ Our journal is now published twice a year. We thank Elise for her work in this and encourage members to submit articles or teaching resources.
- ▶ Social media is a popular form of communication with our members with our Facebook group having 67 active members
- ▶ We have relaunched the website and our new platform has been well-received by members and the executive. administrators. The members only area has also been updated. We thank Jacob for all his work with this.
- ▶ In association with other professional associations we have been examining models to develop our primary school members through some form of "bundle membership". Given our very low numbers in this sector any way we can increase our links will be of use.

5. Action for promoting Geography

- ▶ In August, GTASA in conjunction with the University of Adelaide hosted our second Zoom-based Year 12 Night. The event was a great success and over 100 students took part, which is higher than in previous years. It was also pleasing to see so many country schools involved, who may not have been able to attend the event previously. We plan to run a hybrid event in 2022 as the UOA is understandably keen to show students their venues.
- ▶ We also held our first ever Year 10-12 virtual quiz night. With over 50 students and teams from 7 different schools the night involved some hotly contested quizzing with a Pembroke team taking home the trophy this year. We look forward to running this again in 2022.
- ▶ We continue to run the SA Geographers Fieldwork Award with the Royal Geographical Society of SA who provided generous sponsorship to the winners. The award recognizes excellence in geographical skills, particularly fieldwork. Whilst we had more entries in 2020 we encourage teachers to submit student work for the 2021 awards.

6. Curriculum Developments

- ▶ The DECS (department schools) have released new schemes of work for use in their schools. GTASA have been involved throughout the consultancy process and these look to be useful resources for new teachers and out of field teachers.

7. Issues & challenges

- ▶ With 2 years without conferences the income of our association has been affected, despite slight increases in membership. We will aim to create more opportunities to offer events and professional development that also provide income.
- ▶ Engaging other Geography teachers who are not yet members of our association in our Professional Development continues to be a challenge. We will examine ways of increasing promotion of our offerings across all sectors.

Finally, in closing this report, we want to thank the dedicated Executive committee who have supported us through the last 12 months. An association such as ours is reliant on the efforts of our volunteers and the countless hours they give to us.

Fiona Greig and Simon Miller
Presidents

Geography Teachers' Association of South Australia Inc.



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TGTA REPORT TO AGTA AB21.1

1. Membership

MEMBERSHIP CURRENTLY STANDS AT

26 (1 Life, 15 Schools, 10 Individual)

2. TGTA Committee

PRESIDENT:

Caryn Shield

VICE PRESIDENT/IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

Rowan Harris

SECRETARY:

Karen Caporelli

TREASURER/PUBLIC OFFICER/LIFE MEMBER:

Dr Greg Calvert

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Debbie Claridge, Dr Bianca Coleman, Erin Leder, Georgie Routley

3. Recent Activities

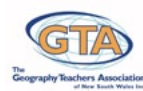
Most of our efforts for the latter part of this year have been focussed on our hosting duties associated with AGTA 2021. Unfortunately, due to the extensive lockdowns in NSW and VIC, in addition to the on-going uncertainty regarding border closures with other states, we made the difficult decision to postpone this event until next year. The good news, is that our two keynote speakers, Dr. Shane Gould and Simon Kuestenmacher have both re-committed to the event and we are thrilled that the conference will proceed at Crowne Plaza, Hobart from September 28th -30th 2022.

The association is continuing to look at the challenge of how to promote Geography in senior secondary (9-12) classes, particularly in public schools in Tasmania. In these schools, Geography is rarely available as a subject to be studied beyond Year 8, and where it is available, it is often an elective, competing with a wide range of subjects for student enrolments. We are also exploring a number of different ways to support beginning and out of field teachers, including through partnering with Teachers for Change, to offer mentoring and advice.

Caryn Shield
President TGTA



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GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

GTAV is delighted to report that there has been another slight growth in our membership this year. The fact that Victoria has had another four separate lockdowns this year has certainly had an impact. As a result, Victorians have since March 2020 endured in total 262 days in lockdown and this has meant for our members and their students sustained periods of online learning. The GTAV continued to support its members with its Zoom PL Wednesdays, free short online professional development sessions which began in 2020 and these along with other Professional Learning events, have enabled us to retain and attract members. Over the last two terms we have had over 355 attendees to these online sessions. Given the increased focus within the VCE Geography Study Design for implementation in 2022 on Geospatial technologies, the GTAV made this a focus wherever possible across the Wednesday PLs to provide that added support to teachers.

Some of these sessions were:

- ▶ VCE Revision – Tips & Techniques
- ▶ Geospatial and Google Earth Pro
- ▶ Local Variations in Wellbeing: Using Geospatial data
- ▶ Layers of Geospatial Understanding
- ▶ ESRI Geospatial skills for Fieldwork
- ▶ Going spatial for real life – Engaging Students
- ▶ VCE Geography Unit 2: Tourism
- ▶ Teaching Olympics Geography Feature
- ▶ Conducted by Webinar were linked sessions with the Spatial Technologies through recordings in:
 - Part 1 - Basic skills
 - Part 2 - Developing the teaching

The lockdown altered the planned GTAV VCE Conference sessions for Year 11 and 12 teachers for 29 and 30 November 2021. The planned 1½ days conference were moved to an online format. There was hope that the fieldwork sessions on the second day could be face-to-face. Like our teaching colleagues the GTAV has become adept at changing the platform for delivery of our Professional Learning at very short notice.

GTAV continues to create, collaborate and provide Geography educators with up-to-date and relevant resources, publications, student programs and professional development. In 2021, GTAV was supported by 'Connecting Learning to Work' initiative by DET to create a series of careers resources in the Geography and Geosciences fields. Due to be available for school accessibility in 2022, these resources help highlight and guide teachers in the pathways and opportunities available for students including a series of Live Chats with employers, employees and tertiary students, lesson plans, activities, video interviews and posters.

GTAV partnered with DELWP to create Level 7 and 10 units of work around exploring water in Victoria. The resources lead students to understand the distribution of water sources in Victoria and issues facing users such as salinity. Games help students understand the movement, quality and management of water in their catchment and environmental and cultural flows. The resources can be found here -:

<https://www.gtav.asn.au/resources/resources-all-levels/melbourne-water-geography-resources>

The GTAV also worked with Forest Discovery to publish a Level 10 Environmental Change and Management free teaching unit from Toolangi Forest Discovery Centre. This resource can be found here:

<https://www.forestdiscovery.org.au/>.

DELWP and the GTAV have expanded the MapIt! competition to upper primary levels, allowing younger students to engage with geospatial technology and supporting teachers to feel more confident with using GIS in a classroom setting.

Aligned with the VCAA 2022 – 2026 VCE Geography Study Design, GTAV have published a suite of new Year 11 and 12 textbooks. Changes across all books include being updated with the latest data available for each topic and case study, examples of geospatial technologies in case studies being added or updated where appropriate/possible, new content to meet the outcomes of the study design added which includes text, maps, graphs and images and fieldwork chapters enhanced providing students with detailed guidelines to approaching and conducting fieldwork.



<https://www.gtav.asn.au/resources/vce-textbooks/vce-geography-textbooks---edition-3>

In all, it has been a very busy year for GTAV. We have had a number of new staff joining the team and a full committee of 14 members.

We thank them all for their invaluable and innovative contribution to the teaching of Geography.



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GEOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Affiliates report to AGTA, October 2021

2021 Vision and Operational procedures involve three themes for WA Geography: • Service to the classroom Geography teacher via PDs, Workshops and Conference. • Support to the Years 7 – 12 geography students via Revision Seminars and Student PLs. • Strengthen Geography discipline profile and connection to future careers via HaSS packages and electronic resources.

1. Membership

AS AT OCTOBER 2021:

► 122 Metropolitan Members • 39 Country Members • 7 Student Members

2. GAWA Committee 2021

GAWA EXECUTIVE GAWA COMMITTEE GAWA OFFICE STAFF

PRESIDENT Leo Conti

VICE-PRESIDENT Lidia de Giuseppe **VICE-PRESIDENT** Peggy Bakalis **TREASURER** Tracy Smith

SECRETARY Rachel Scott **IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT** Anna Griffin

GAWA EXECUTIVE

BUSINESS MANAGER Alan May (ex officio) • Laura Billington • Rosemary Cawley • Brittany Edgar
Charissa Efthymou • Alessandra Hardwick • Felicity Ivison • Angela Jones

GAWA COMMITTEE - GAWA OFFICE STAFF

Darryl Michie • Danielle Pisconeri • Alison Sciascia • Tracy Sterling • Bridget Trevaskis • Jon Wyllie

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR Lorrie Smith

3. Professional Development:

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TPD 1 DATE & EVENT: 26TH FEBRUARY - UNPACKING AND TEACHING THE YEAR 11 AND 12 COURSES.

TITLE: UPPER SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM FOCUS: ATAR YEAR 11 & YEAR 12

SESSION 1: Natural & Ecological Hazards

SESSION 2: Global Networks & Interconnections

SESSION 3: Global Environmental Change

SESSION 4: Planning Sustainable Places

SESSION 5: Assessment, Marking & Moderation

SESSION 6: A food-based good – Viticulture & Wine

Target audience: New, Inexperienced and Returning Lower Secondary school teachers.

Post-evaluation survey results rated this as 'Highly valuable'. Significant networking with experienced Geography teachers and valuable workshops that unpacked the WA Yr 7 - 10 Geography curriculum. Participant numbers: 23 **Committee review:** To improve on numbers, GAWA will begin advertising 'save the date' for this event in December of 2021. Event manager for event has already been nominated and committee member is working on organising presenters.

TPD 3 DATE & EVENT: 7TH MAY – GEOGRAPHY SKILLS DAY.

TITLE: ADDRESSING CHALLENGES AND INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATION

PART 1: COCKBURN CENTRAL AS A TRANSIT ORIENTATED DEVELOPMENT [TOD]

PART 2: FREMANTLE PORT AS A FACILITATOR OF INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATION

Geography curriculum focus and fieldwork case studies included walking tours of Cockburn Central & Port of Fremantle. Focus on Transport systems and problems, infrastructure, future planning and processes, transport as a facilitator of international integration and planning effective fieldwork.

TARGET AUDIENCE: YEAR 11 & YEAR 12 GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS.

Post-evaluation survey results rated this as 'Highly valuable'. Excellent networking and sharing of resources. Participant numbers: 20 (sold out) **Committee review:** Feedback stated that there is a need for more 'hands-on and practical' geography field work workshops. As a result, GAWA committee is in the process of organising another 'geography skills day' for 2022. Event manager for event has already been nominated and committee member is working on creating a program that will be advertised in February 2022.

TPD 4 DATE & EVENT: 13TH & 14TH AUGUST

GAWA CONFERENCE 'ENGAGING WITH GEOGRAPHY': GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM FOCUS:
LOWER SECONDARY YEARS 7 TO 10 HASS 'GEOGRAPHY' TOPICS AND UPPER SCHOOL YEAR 11 AND YEAR 12 GEOGRAPHY UNITS.

TARGET AUDIENCE: ALL LOWER SECONDARY HASS AND UPPER SECONDARY GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS.

Post-evaluation survey results rated this as 'Extremely valuable'. Program was very successful. Keynote speakers included Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC and Dr Natasha Pauli, plus 4 additional presenters from the Universities and key organisations linked to the curriculum, 5 fieldwork excursions, 9 workshops – simply outstanding reviews. **Committee review:** Feedback stated that teachers were highly satisfied with the topics presented by Keynote speakers as well as selection of workshops and fieldwork. In addition, value for money was excellent and venue, catering, Conference dinner and post conference networking function was very well received. 2022 Conference convener will be appointed at AGM (November).

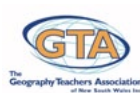
TPD 5 DATE & EVENT: 29TH OCTOBER PLANNING FOR 2022 GEOGRAPHY – THE NEW YEAR 11

SYLLABUS. GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM FOCUS: GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM EMPHASIS ON THE NEW YEAR 11 SYLLABUS **TARGET AUDIENCE:** ALL UPPER SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS.

Event was cancelled for this year.



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Committee review: Traditionally, Yr 12 Mock exams, Yr 11 second semester exams, report writing, graduation ceremonies and ATAR exams make this stage of the year very busy. Therefore after careful consideration and much discussion, the 2021 committee felt that term 4 be used as a planning period for 2022 GAWA events. As a result no PD was offered in term 4.

4. Professional Development: Student Professional Learning Seminars Extra help with ATAR Geography

SPL1 DATE & EVENT: 31ST MARCH

Year 12 Geography Unit 3 Student Depth Study Seminar 1 Geography curriculum focus: ATAR Year 12 Unit 3 Depth study – Climate Change & Biodiversity Loss.

Target audience: All Year 12 ATAR Geography students and teachers. Post-evaluation survey results rated this excellent. Remote and out of Perth metropolitan schools favoured the use of Webinars over the face-to-face seminars purely on the basis of efficiency in cost, time and organisation/transport.

Participant numbers: 64 face to face (sold out); webinar schools 32.

Committee review: Feedback was positive.

SPL2 DATE & EVENT: 4TH AUGUST

Year 12 Geography Unit 4 Student Depth Study Seminar 2 Geography curriculum focus: ATAR Year 12 Unit 4 Depth study – Megacities New York; Tokyo. Target audience: All Year 12 ATAR Geography students and teachers. Post-evaluation survey results rated this very good.

Remote and out of Perth metropolitan schools favoured the use of webinars over the face-to-face seminars purely on the basis of efficiency in cost, time and organisation/transport.

Participant numbers:

TOKYO 55 face to face; webinar 1 school class & 4 individual students.
NEW YORK 33 face to face; webinar 4 school classes & 1 individual student.

Committee review: Feedback was good, however Tokyo was more popular than New York which is traditionally unusual. Furthermore, committee feels that the date of this event may not be suitable as it is close to the revision seminar and students appear to opting to only attend one rather than take advantage of both.

5. Professional Development: Student Revision Seminar

SRS 1 DATE & EVENT: 16TH MAY

Year 12 ATAR Geography Student Revision Seminar 1 (Venue Notre Dame University).

Geography curriculum focus: Year 12 Unit 3 Global environmental change; Geographical inquiry skills

Target audience: All Year 12 ATAR Geography students and teachers. Post-evaluation survey results rated this excellent. Use of experience Year 12 geography teachers was extremely well received as the content and skills required to be demonstrated in exams was disseminated in a manner that connected with students. Once again, remote and out of Perth metropolitan schools favoured the use of Webinars over the face-to-face seminars purely on the basis of efficiency in cost, time and organisation.

Participant numbers: 64 face to face (sold out); webinar schools 40.

Committee review: Feedback was very positive. Webinars are popular, however, the committee believes that there is still a market and advantage for face to face presentations. Event manager for event has already been nominated and committee member is working on organising presenters.

SRS 2 DATE & EVENT: 11TH SEPTEMBER

Year 12 ATAR Geography Student Revision Seminar 2 Venue Notre Dame University).

Geography curriculum focus: Year 12 Unit 3 Global environmental change; Unit 4 Planning sustainable places; Geographical inquiry skills Target audience: All Year 12 ATAR Geography students and teachers. Last year's teacher and student feedback requested more skills revision. As a result, presenters focussed on exam techniques more than content in this revision event. Option of having Webinars in addition to over the face-to-face seminars was well received.

Participant numbers: 78 face to face (sold out); webinar 8 school classes & 37 individual students.

Committee review: Feedback was. Webinars are popular, however, the committee will continue to offer face to face presentations. Issue to overcome is finding more experienced exam presenters. More discussion to follow.

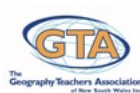
6. Publication and Projects

TEXTBOOKS (NUMBERS SOLD FOR PERIOD OCT 2020 TO OCT 2021)

- i. 2021 Year 12 Revision Guide has been published with a detailed analysis of the WA 2020 ATAR Exam. This publication is well received by both students and teachers as it is used as a learning teaching resource.
Number sold = 750
- ii. WA ATAR Geography Units 1 & 2. New edition has been written to include the changes to the revised Year 11 ATAR Geography Course. This new edition is being written, produced and published by GAWA. Use of local teacher-authors is an advantage.
Existing edition number sold = 1006
Updated edition will available by January 2022.
- iii. WA ATAR Geography Units 3 & 4. New edition is in the process of being written to include the changes to the revised Year 12 ATAR Geography Course. This new edition is being written, produced and published by GAWA. Use of local teacher-authors is an advantage. Existing edition
Number sold = 885



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- Updated edition will available by January 2023.
- iv. AGTA - Geography Skills Unlocked.
Number sold = 491
 - v. AGTA - Geography Literacy Unlocked.
Number sold = 96
 - vi. AGTA - Geography Fieldwork Unlocked.
Number sold = 1114

EXAMINATION PACKAGES

GAWA 2021 Semester 2 ATAR Year 11 and Year 12 Semester 2 Examination Packages. Written, produced and published by GAWA. Written and reviewed by experienced classroom teachers and used by the majority of colleges and schools in WA.

Numbers sold: Year 11 – 2223; Year 12 – 2169

7. Promotion of Geography

WEBSITE, FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

GAWA WEBSITE is the main form of communication used between members and the Association. It is highly effective and reliable. Anna Griffin will be finishing as GAWA's Website Manager. Evidence based on 'Google Analytics' user data reports show a greater increase in activity in comparison to 2020.

Committee review: New Website manager needs to be appointed. This will occur by December at the "2022 Planning Day" meeting.

FACEBOOK – 654 followers. Use is effective and this is a valuable communication tool. Good platform to correspond with non-GAWA teachers & public.

Committee review: Facebook manager needs to be appointed. This will occur by December at the "2022 Planning Day" meeting.

TWITTER – 184 followers. Reasonably used as a social network for posting geography curriculum and event updates. WA audience is still growing.

Committee review: Twitter manager needs to be appointed. This will occur by December at the "2022 Planning Day" meeting.

CONNECT – This Dept of Education platform is an additional form of communicating and attracting more Geography/HaSS teachers. It is being used to promote 'geography' resources, support materials and provide updates to Dept of Ed teachers.

Committee review: Connect manager needs to be appointed. This will occur by December at the "2022 Planning Day" meeting.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (SCSA) PD – TEACHERS NEW TO HASS

No requests were made to GAWA for additional support for new teachers of geography.

HASS WEEK 29TH MARCH – 1ST APRIL – CONNECTING GEOGRAPHY TO FUTURE CAREERS.

Purpose was to promote geography as a subject in schools and highlight associated career pathways. This was a new initiative run by the newly formed HaSS Council. To mark this event, each of the WA HaSS related Associations – GAWA; HTAWA; PLEAWA; ETAWA united together to celebrate and promote the importance and value of studying Humanities and Social Sciences. An information stall was set up by GAWA and a brief talk was presented highlighting the importance of geography and other HaSS related subject.

Target audience: All HaSS teachers and students.

Committee review: Post-evaluation survey results showed this event has potential, however, requires greater advertising. HaSS Week manager needs to be appointed. This will occur by December at the "2022 Planning Day" meeting.

GEONIGHT DATE:

30th March – A global celebration of Geography presented by GAWA, Curtin University (Geography) and full Bottle and Up WA.

Title: Innovations in Geography

Target audience: All Geography / HaSS teachers, University lecturers and academics, and University students studying geography related units. This was a new initiative and highly popular and successful. Aim is to imbed this into the GAWA calendar and thus create a culture that bridges the schools and universities. Participant numbers: 40 (sold out)

Committee review: Unanimous decision to run this again and embed it as part of the GAWA PD culture. Event Managers for 2022 are Leo Conti (GAWA) and Associated Professor Tod Jones (Curtin University).

PERTH CONVENTION CENTRE CAREERS EXPO – 28TH APRIL – 2ND MAY (PROMOTING GEOGRAPHY)

Purpose was to assist teachers, parents and students with the lead up to school based Year 10 subject selection. Initially Presidents from each Humanities Associations agreed to work in unison and focus directly on promoting 'HASS based careers' at this year's Career Expo – Convention Centre.

GAWA and HTAWA set up a stand with banners, flyers and handouts linking career pathways to their associated subjects. GAWA was extremely strong in its promotion highlighting the connection between each HASS discipline and Tertiary study/employment. This was a new initiative and feedback was positive.

Committee review: Committee stated that it 'may' consider running this again in 2022 – depending upon Covid-19 restrictions.

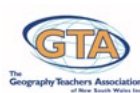
GAWA'S YOUNG GEOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Competition categories Years 5 – 6; Years 7 – 10; Year 11 & Year 12.

One nomination per year group per school only. Theme 'WA Geographical Challenges and Strategies'. All student winners along with their parents attended the GAWA Conference presentation ceremony. This was extremely well received by students, parents and teachers. The competition was highly successful and placed Geography in high profile. It motivated teachers to be involved for 2021.



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WINNERS WERE ANNOUNCED AT GAWA CONFERENCE. CONGRATULATIONS TO

- ▶ **Year 7** – Domenic Venturini-Leach from Christ Church Grammar School
Teacher Name: Jon Wyllie
- ▶ **Year 9** – Sienna Weerakody from St Mary's Anglican School for Girls
Teacher Name: Irene Cumming
- ▶ **Year 10** – Hawk Hughes from Christ Church Grammar School
Teacher Name: Jon Wyllie
- ▶ **Year 12** – Tiara D'Lima from Holy Cross College.
Teacher Name: Laura Billington

Committee review: Extremely well received and a huge increase in entries compared to 2020. Unanimous decision to run this again as this has now become part of the GAWA Conference program. Event Manager for 2022 has been appointed.

JOSEPH GENTILLI MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN GEOGRAPHICAL EDUCATION

Extremely well received by geography teachers as it set a positive tone for the Conference. Winner was announced at GAWA Conference. Congratulations to Kalo Bell for her outstanding contributions to geography pedagogy, resource development, fieldwork resources and peer support of geographical education.

Committee review: Extremely well received and 7 nominations were entered. Unanimous decision to run this again as this has now become part of the GAWA Conference program. Event Manager for 2022 has been appointed – Leo Conti.

AGTA BURSARIES

No action required by GAWA due to COVID-19 disruptions. 5 Teachers had registered their interest to attend the AGTA Conference in Tasmania.

AGTA DON BIDDLE AWARD

GAWA nominated Darryl Michie for this prestigious award.

8. WA Schools Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) SCSA has two Course Advisory Committees (CACs).

A syllabus review of HaSS 7 – 10 and ATAR Geography 11 & 12 courses is occurring. Refinements to HaSS Years 7 – 10 and Years 11 and 12 geography courses has occurred. Feedback has been provided to SCSA; ACARA and AGTA. Newly revised courses and syllabuses will be released in 2022 and 2023.

9. Future GAWA 2021 Geography Events

Nil. Covid-19 restrictions and uncertainty has caused future planning to be ceased for the time being.

10. Feedback on AGTA request from previous meeting (May)

Leo has provided Rowan Harris with feedback regarding 'Sponsorship – Career project'.

11. Issues and challenges

- Increasing overall ATAR results and popularity of selecting geography as an upper school subject. Promoting geography in Primary schools – resource creation and attracting Primary school teachers to be part of GAWA committee.
- Attract more publicity - 2022 invite WA newspapers/media to the GAWA Conference – Gentilli Award and Geographer of the Year award winners.

Final words of support... on behalf of the WA geography teachers and GAWA, I would like to extend our sincere thoughts, genuine care and well wishes to all who have been impacted by this dreaded and evolving virus, especially the teachers, students and general communities in NSW and Victoria.

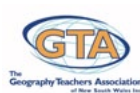
Leo Conti

President of the Geographical Association of Western Australia

October 2021



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January 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

2021 Geography Big Week Out (QLD) - Jan 22 2022 - Jan 26 2022

February 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Australian Geography Competition - 24 March - 6 April 2022

April 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31					1	2
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

2022 Geography Big Week Out (NT) - July 3 - July 7 2022

iGeo (France) - Week of July 11 2022

August 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

AGTA Conference (Tas) - 28 Sept - 30 Sept 2022

October 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31					1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

November 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



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